

## Message Text

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DRAFTED BY CU/EA:MZINOMAN:NB  
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FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO USLO PEKING

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 179264

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS:SCUL, CH

SUBJECT: CHINESE ARCHEOLOGICAL EXHIBITION: NEGOTIATING  
BACKGROUND

REF: A) 178033; B) 178034

1. THIS MESSAGE WILL PROVIDE YOU WITH DEPARTMENT'S THINKING ON CURRENT STATUS OF AND STRATEGY FOR NEGOTIATIONS WITH CHINESE ON ARCHEOLOGICAL EXHIBIT AGREEMENT. AS WE HAVE INDICATED IN REF A, WE HAVE FEW REMAINING PROBLEMS WITH CHINESE TEXT OF JULY 6 AND, THEREFORE, VIEW UPCOMING NEGOTIATING SESSION AS THE FINAL SUBSTANTIVE ROUND ON LETTER AND PROTOCOL. OUT OF THIS SESSION SHOULD EMERGE BASIC AGREEMENT IN PRINCIPLE ON CHINESE TEXTS OF THOSE TWO DOCUMENTS. WE ARE AWARE OF CHINESE SENSITIVITY TO CHANGING TEXT AND, THEREFORE, ASSUME THAT THOSE POINTS STILL PRESENTING US PROBLEMS AND WHICH CHINESE REFUSE TO HANDLE BY TEXTUAL MODIFICATION, CAN BE DEALT WITH BY MEANS OF ORAL AGREEMENT AND DIPLOMATIC NOTE, AS WAS THE CASE WITH CANADIANS. (WHEN WE HAVE RECEIVED REACTION OF CHINESE TO UPCOMING SESSION, WE WILL PROVIDE YOU WITH DRAFT TEXT OF OUR UNDERSTANDINGS TO BE INCLUDED IN DIPLOMATIC NOTE.)

2. SUBSEQUENT AND FINAL SESSION, WE SEE AS BEING TAKEN UP  
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WITH AGREEING UPON AUTHENTIC ENGLISH VERSION. SINCE MFA

ON JULY 6 ONLY PROVIDED CHINESE LANGUAGE TEXTS, IN DRAWING UP CURRENT INSTRUCTIONS, WE CONCENTRATED ON THESE TEXTS, KEEPING IN MIND ENGLISH TEXTS PROVIDED TO YOU BY MFA ON MAY 9. OUR ENGLISH TRANSLATION, WHICH WAS SENT TO YOU IN REFTEL B, WAS DRAWN UP TO PROVIDE BACKGROUND INFORMATION FOR CURRENT NEGOTIATING ROUND AND IN ANTICIPATION OF FINAL ROUND ON TRANSLATIONS. IT CONTAINS LANGUAGE WHICH WE BELIEVE ACCURATELY REFLECTS CHINESE TEXTS AND WHICH WE WOULD LIKE TO SEE IN ULTIMATE AUTHENTIC ENGLISH VERSION.

3. FOLLOWING YOUR NEXT SESSION WITH CHINESE, WE WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR VIEWS ON OUR SEQUENCE OF STEPS AND A REALISTIC TIMETABLE FOR CONCLUDING NEGOTIATING PROCESS. WE WOULD HOPE TO BE ABLE TO COMPLETE EXCHANGE OF DOCUMENTS BY FIRST WEEK IN SEPTEMBER. KISSINGER

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